

# Gunshots echo in the stairwell

## Fatal police shooting of Red Hook man recalls Gowanus tragedy of 20 years ago

By Noah Hurowitz  
The Brooklyn Paper

The fatal shooting of a Red Hook man by a rookie police officer on Nov. 20 could have been prevented, said the father of the victim of a similar shooting that took place in Gowanus in 1994.

Officer Peter Liang shot and killed Akai Gurley in a dark stairwell of the Louis H. Pink Houses in East New York at 11:15 pm on Nov. 20, police said. Liang and another cop entered the stairwell on the eight floor with weapons unholstered and, when Gurley came in on the seventh floor, Liang fired once, hitting him in the chest, an NYPD spokeswoman said. For one dad, the death, which police commissioner Bill Bratton called an “unfortunate accident,” kicked up memories of his own son’s demise at the hands of a police officer in a public housing stairwell.

“My son wasn’t committing no crime,” said Nicholas Heyward, Sr., calling for prosecutors to indict Liang. “These incidents aren’t tragedies, they are murders. The police are killing us.”

Nicholas Heyward, Jr. was 13 on Sept. 27, 1994, when an officer came upon him playing cops and robbers in the Gowanus Houses building where he lived. Heyward was holding a toy rifle. Friends reported hearing him say “We’re playing!” before the gunfire that took his life. Heyward, Sr. says that the toy did not look like an actual weapon.

In the aftermath, Heyward, Sr. called for the cop responsible to be prosecuted, but then—District At-



Nicholas Heyward, Sr. stands in front of a mural remembering his son Nicholas Heyward, Jr., who died in 1994 after a police officer on patrol in the Gowanus Houses shot him in a stairwell.

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torney Charles Hynes chose not to press charges. At a press conference called last week in response to Gurley’s death, Heyward reiterated the demand that police stop assigning rookie officers to do so-called “vertical patrols” in public housing developments, which officers were doing when both killings occurred. He also restated his opposition to police patrolling with their weapons drawn, as they were doing in both instances.

In 2004, between Gurley’s and Heyward’s deaths, an officer fatally shot Timothy Stansbury, Jr. at the Louis Armstrong Houses in Bedford-Stuyvesant, under remarkably similar circumstances. At the time, then-police chief Ray Kelly said he would review the protocol for vertical patrols, and Borough President Adams, then a police lieutenant, called for an end to guns-out stairwell sweeps.

Protocol then allowed for officer discretion in choosing to pull out a pistol, and it still does, Bratton told the Times in the wake of the Gurley shooting.

That is not okay, and inexperience and nervousness do not excuse Liang’s behavior, Heyward said. “This officer should be brought

up on charges of criminally neglect homicide,” Heyward said. “There is no reason to shoot into the darkness. He had no idea what he was shooting at.”

A grand jury declined to bring the same charge against Officer Richard Neri, who shot Stansbury dead.

The most recent death came days before a Missouri grand jury declined to indict Ferguson cop Darren Wilson for killing unarmed teen Michael Brown, sparking protests nationwide, including a massive, traffic-stopping march down Flatbush Avenue. On Wednesday, at press time, a Staten Island grand jury declined to indict the officer who choked Gowanus native Eric Garner to death.

It was against the backdrop of the looming Ferguson decision that firebrand Assemblyman Charles Barron (D—East New York) organized a press conference calling for Liang’s prosecution. At it, he pointed out that Bratton was police chief back when Heyward died.

“Bratton is here to protect killer cops,” Barron said. “This was not an accident, it was a crime.”



Bay Ridge resident and Empty Cages volunteer Kenia Castellanos with her foster Egyptian spiny mouse Charlie.

# HOMeward BOUND

## Williamsburg vegans rescue unloved animals

By Luke Tress  
for The Brooklyn Paper

It’s no animal left behind — even rats.

A group of uber-vegans is rescuing animals, including deeply unpopular, near-death creatures such as poisoned rats and maimed pigeons, and nursing them to health in Williamsburg.

The goal of the Empty Cages Collective, according to its director, is simple: save as many animals as possible. To make this happen, the volunteers that comprise the organization field calls and dash across the city to respond to tips about, say, a raccoon caught in a barbed-wire fence, or an orphaned kitten crying in the rain, then ferry the distressed critters to the room they rent in a

warehouse and set to work finding them homes.

They also pick up injured animals that other shelters are planning to kill, going so far as to fly furry friends from out-of-state to spare them from being euthanized.

What keeps them going is their vegan ideology, which views animal rights as a cause on par with the abolition of slavery, one volunteer said.

“Racism is exactly the same as speciesism,” said Natalia Tasic, a Bensonhurst resident.

Most rescue groups only accept cats and dogs, but in pursuit of species equality, the Empty Cages Collective

takes all kinds of animals, including at various times seagulls, ducks, tarantulas, rabbits, snakes and guinea pigs.

Neighbors sometimes bring injured squirrels and pigeons — the Empty Cages space features an open area for birds to practice flying — and members say that each year they find chickens that escaped the ritual slaughter of Yom Kippur, or that were abandoned after Easter. At least one rat has come from the subway, but they get most of their rodents from laboratories and snake-food breeders.

New Yorkers kill and abandon thousands of animals each year, and shelters are legally allowed to put down healthy ones, such as pit bulls that

have been trained to fight, or cats with feline leukemia, which mousers can live with for years but is usually grounds for euthanasia.

Empty Cages is doing all it can to stem the tide, said director Jessica Zafonte, a Manhattanite.

“People treat animals like they’re garbage,” said Zafonte. “We are a very high-kill city.”

Most of Empty Cages’ charges are pulled from shelters run by Animal Care and Control of NYC, a private group that gets city money and takes in any and all species, but which euthanized 5,243 cats and dogs and 802 other animals last year, according to its website. Zafonte charges that Animal Care and Control shelters are often overcrowded, causing many animals to fall sick.

In a statement, the group acknowledged the problem, but said it is working to address it through such measures as vaccination.

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# Monarchy from the UK

## Our bespoke guide to Brooklyn for the royal couple

By Matthew Perlman  
The Brooklyn Paper

The British are coming!

Prince William and Kate Middleton, the duke and duchess of Cambridge, are headed for Kings County next week. The trip will be the royal couple’s first to the borough, part of a three-day New York visit, and while here they are scheduled to catch a Dec. 8 Nets game against LeBron “King” James and his Cleveland Cavaliers.

Not much is public about the posh pair’s plans for the day, but we have some suggestions to round out what is sure to be an exciting stop-over for the world’s most famous welfare recipients.

**The Chip Shop**

The grub at this English pub might be a bit common for the monarchs-to-be —

true to the name, fish and chips are the signature item, alongside bangers and mash and shepherd’s pie — but slumming it has a proud tradition among top-hat-wearers for whom polo is a reasonable sport and not a brand of clothing.

And with two locations a short carriage-ride from the Barclays Center, it’s an ultra-convenient option. Besides, where else in Brooklyn can a homesick Brit find a treacle pudding with custard?

**The Chip Shop** [129 Atlantic Ave. between Henry and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, and 383 Fifth Ave. at Sixth Street in Park Slope, (718) 855-7775 and (718) 832-7701, [www.chipshopnyc.com](http://www.chipshopnyc.com)].

**Kings Plaza**

If the couple wants to get some shopping in, we think they should point their royal procession towards Kings Plaza in

Mill Basin because, you know, kings.

**Kings Plaza Shopping Center** (Avenue U between Flatbush Avenue and E. 55th Street in Mill Basin, [www.kingsplazaonline.com](http://www.kingsplazaonline.com)).

**New York Chess and Games**

Park Slope’s most prominent chess-and-board-game retailer is conveniently located across Flatbush Avenue from the Barclays Center. It is perfectly positioned for the pair to pick up a chess-set memento that, considering all their free time and disposable income, could have them giving the whizzes at Edward R. Murrow a run for their money before you can say “checkmate.” King them!

**New York Chess and Games** [192 Flatbush Ave. at Dean Street in Park Slope, (718) 398-3727, [www.newyorkchessandgameshop.com](http://www.newyorkchessandgameshop.com)].

**Prince Hotel**

We imagine the couple has pinned down lodging for their visit, but if something falls through, there is always an

See **ROYALS** on page 11



Prince William and Kate Middleton are planning a visit to Prospect Heights.







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# Saying ‘Goodbye’ — again

Williamsburg music venue gives up the ghost for good

By Danielle Furfaro  
The Brooklyn Paper

Time to add another name to the ever-growing list of music venues shutting down in Brooklyn.

Goodbye Blue Monday, the quirky music and performance-art venue on Broadway in Bushwick, closed down on Nov. 30, confirmed former owner Steve Trimboli.

“I, for one, am both saddened and relieved,” said Trimboli, who still assisted in some aspects of the business at the end.

Goodbye Blue Monday has operated in fits and starts during the past few years. The venue held a series of benefit shows and an online fund-raising campaign in early 2013 to pay for upgrades to the falling-apart facility. And the venue announced earlier this year that it would close down if it did not come up with several thousands dollars to pay fines it owed to the city.

But news of the closure still came as a blow, said one staff member.

“The community is go-



Photo by Stefanie Giovannini

The drummer for the band Space Meow lit up Goodbye Blue Monday in March to raise money to keep the venue open. Frantic fund-raisers saved it momentarily, but it shuttered at November’s end.

ing to be broken down,” said Goodbye Blue Monday employee Adeline Thery. “It is very sad.”

The venue was known for an open booking policy that allowed any band to play and for not charging a cover for

shows. Bands typically passed a hat to get paid.

Several Brooklyn music venues have gone — or at least announced they are going — the way of the dodo in the past several months. Those closures include Death By Au-

dio, Glasslands, Public Assembly, and Spike Hill.

“New York is making it impossible now for anyone to make a buck doing anything creative,” said Trimboli, who said the landlord approached the current owner with a new lease where the rent was tripled. “I am sure that sports bars or bars that only have cover bands will stay open forever.”

One artist we queried was disgusted at the rate that music venues are closing.

“If New York City wants to become an occupied territory for the wealthy only, by all means, let’s just admit it and stop pretending already,” said Rachel Eisley, founder of Teleportation Arts, a multidisciplinary arts collective that operated out of a loft a few doors down from Goodbye Blue Monday until the landlord found a higher-paying tenant. “Good luck with further gentrification at such a pace. Once the artists are forced out, we will not be paving the way for you anymore.”

## The new pornographers

Bushwick artists seeking amateur smut

By Danielle Furfaro  
The Brooklyn Paper

Bow-chicka-wow-wow.

Bushwick art space Secret Project Robot is hosting an amateur porn festival in the last weekend of February, and an organizer who is soliciting submissions says anything goes.

“We are open to everything,” said Simon Leahy — and she means everything. “I would like to see some cool, weird fetish-anime stuff alongside hot orgies.”

In addition to X-rated-film screenings, the weekend-long blowout is set to include sex workshops, demonstrations, and after-party mixers for tingly-feeling cineastes looking to



Leah Shore

Park Slope animator Leah Shore’s prehensile-boobed creation.

mingle. The point of the whole affair, according to Leahy, who also puts on the annual drag festival Bushwig, is to support low-budget pornographers and showcase the whole spectrum of kink and gender that is out there.

“Porn is something that we all consume, but there is no fo-

rum or place in which to have these discussions or in which to share,” she said. “I want to create a platform for that.”

Leahy is still accepting submissions, and the titles we sampled are, shall we say, not conventionally sexy.

One aspiring smut peddler is working on an anthology of “horror-porn,” featuring such disturbing scenes as a woman slicing off her own breast, another biting off a man’s penis, and a third losing her teeth while engaging in some extreme oral sex. The man behind the lens said his love of horror movies and porn made his submission a no-brainer.

“It is like the ultimate thrill,” said Bushwick director Jake

Dibeler. “I have always been a bit of a sado-masochist. I am afraid of spiders and I have a pet tarantula. I want to feel that anxiety.”

But don’t worry. No appendages were lost in the making of Dibeler’s movies. The skin-ophile commissioned a veritable “Gray’s Anatomy” of prostheses for the project.

A few Brooklynites have already submitted flicks that are not exactly porn, but are definitely raunchy and bizarre.

One Park Slope animator turned in a few titles, including “Boobatary,” about a woman who types with her pendulous breasts.

“I have been making animated films for years and I am a pervert, so this is perfect for me,” Leah Shore said. “What is not to like about cartoon boobs?”

Leahy will accept submissions through Jan. 10. Visit [www.nycpornfilmfestival.com](http://www.nycpornfilmfestival.com) for details.



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### James Madison High School

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### Metropolitan Pool & Fitness Center

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Dec. 10: 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Dec. 23: 6:00–8:00 p.m.

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# Bad houseguest steals \$40K from hosts

**84TH PRECINCT**  
*Brooklyn Heights–DUMBO–Boerum Hill–Downtown*

A crook stole \$40,000 in cash from a family he had been staying with for a year when he moved out of their Jay Street apartment on Nov. 10, according to police.

A 31-year-old resident of the apartment between York and Front streets said the 48-year-old suspect was a family friend and had been a longtime house-mate. The suspect had started abusing alcohol, and the victim asked him to move out, according to a report.

After he left, the woman found that \$40,000 was missing from the top drawer of her dresser, the account states. The guy moved out at 3 pm on Nov. 10, and could have taken the dough anytime after 10 am on Nov. 5, the woman related.

**Train pain**

A tough guy stole a man’s wallet aboard a 2 train on Nov. 17, according to police.

The 64-year-old victim said he was riding the train at 5:15 pm when a fiend wearing a green jacket, gray hat, and sunglasses jammed him against the door of the train, fished around in his pocket, and removed his wallet.

The scalawag hopped off the train at Clark Street and fled, cops said. The wallet contained \$50 in cash, an Italian identification card, and a debit card, police said.

**Tough breakup**

A bar patron hit a man in the head for trying to break up a fight between him and his girlfriend in a Smith Street watering hole on Nov. 23, police said.

The 35-year-old victim said he saw the 33-year-old suspect fighting with his gal pal at 3:30 am inside the saloon between Wyckoff and Warren streets. He was trying to intervene when the accused hit him in the head with an unknown object, cutting him, then took off running, according to cops.

**Laptop lifted**

Someone stole a woman’s laptop from her Columbia Heights apartment on Nov. 20, according to the authorities.

The 43-year-old victim said she left the side door to her apartment between Orange and Cranberry streets unlocked at 3:15 am, and when she checked it at noon the door had been opened. The crook made off with a laptop, police recounted.

**Insecure**

A sneak snatched a woman’s wallet as she went through security at the Municipal Building on Joralemon Street on Nov. 19, law enforcement officials stated.

The 55-year-old victim said she entered the building between Adams and Court streets at 10 am, and placed her billfold in a basket to be scanned. When she went to retrieve the wallet, it was gone, and with it, \$5 in cash and credit and debit cards, cops said.

**Auto-billing**

A bandit burgled a car parked behind MetroTech Center on Nov. 20, cops said.

The 25-year-old victim said someone informed him that two men were inside his car, which was parked on Tech Place between Lawrence and Bridge streets, at 3:30 am.

He went out to check and discovered his wallet taken, according to the NYPD. He told officers the wallet contained debit and credit cards.

**Luggage lifted**

A lowlife stole a bunch of clothes and jewelry from a parked car on Dean Street on Nov. 22 or 23, police said.

The 32-year-old victim said she left her luggage in her boyfriend’s car, which he left between Nevins Street and Third Avenue at 11 pm on Nov. 22.

When they returned to the car at 1 pm the next day, her stuff was gone, cops said. The suitcases contained \$500 in cash, five portable hard drives, a pearl necklace, emerald earrings, and a bunch of clothes, accord-

ing to a report.

**Hard lesson**

A crook filched a woman’s wallet in a Smith Street coffee shop on Nov. 19, officers reported.

The 32-year-old victim said she was tutoring someone in the cafe between Wyckoff and Bergen streets at 4:30 pm and left her bag unattended at a table for an hour.

When she went to get it, she found the purse on the floor and the billfold vanished, cops said. The wallet contained debit and credit cards and personal checks, police related.

**Cable vision**

A Plymouth Street building’s former employee carted off a television out of the lobby on Nov. 16, the authorities recounted.

A 34-year-old worker at the building between Bridge and Water streets said the 48-year-old strolled in and commandeered the 32-inch set at 3 am. A security camera captured the crime, according to a police report.

**88TH PRECINCT**  
*Fort Greene–Clinton Hill*

**Double trouble**

Thieves stole two cars from Waverly Avenue overnight on Nov. 29—and they both belonged to the same man who lost his keys, cops said.

The 56-year-old victim said he misplaced the keys before parking his 2011 Honda at 8:30 pm between Gates and Greene avenues. His wife parked their 2005 Mercury on the same block at 2 pm, according to a police report.

The man came out at 10:30 am the next day and found that both rides were gone, the report says.

**Hack attack**

Cops cuffed three teens who they say tried to steal a cabbie’s phone at the corner of Washington Park and Myrtle Avenue on Nov. 26.

The 49-year-old driver said the group hailed him at 7:15 pm, and while one of the youths asked him about a ride, another reached into the

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window of the cab to take his phone while the third started kicking the side of the vehicle to create a distraction.

The hack fought to get his phone back, succeeded, and peeled out, police said. Cops found the suspects 15 minutes later in front of a building on Carlton Avenue between Myrtle and Park avenue, according to officers. Two of the suspects are 16-years-old, and the third is 18, per police.

**Shirt hurt**

A man was arrested for stealing a sweatshirt from a person waiting for the bus at Lafayette Avenue on Nov. 30, the authorities reported.

The 39-year-old victim reported he was waiting for the bus near Fulton Street at 8:35 pm and saying goodbye to a friend when the suspect sauntered up, grabbed a navy blue Hanes hoodie from his hands, and punched him in the head.

When the victim tried to pull the shirt back, the suspect punched him in the head again and took off, police said. Cops caught up with the robbery suspect, a 20-year-old, at 8:51 pm, four blocks away at Fulton Street and Carlton Avenue, according to the NYPD.

**Class act**

Authorities arrested a student who they say attacked a classmate with a chair in a Clermont Avenue school on Nov. 24, for refusing to go on a date with him, according to police.

The youngsters were in class at the high school between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue at 1:15 pm when the 18-year-old suspect supposedly became enraged and bashed the 17-year-old victim in the back with the furniture, officers stated.

The victim said the suspect had been harassing her

because she would not go on a date with him. Emergency medical personnel took her to Brooklyn Hospital Center for treatment, a report states.

**Quick pick**

A sneak stole a woman’s purse from her car as she unloaded groceries in front of a Grand Avenue building on Nov. 24, cops said.

The 45-year-old victim said she parked between Greene and Lexington avenues at 11:35 am and left her handbag in the vehicle as she unloaded her groceries. She returned 15 minutes later to find the purse gone, according to an official account.

**Phone it in**

Three degenerates stole a man’s phone near the corner of Washington and Lafayette avenues on Nov. 25, according to the authorities.

The 36-year-old victim was chatting on his phone at 11:10 pm when the treacherous trio came up from behind him, one of the fiends snatched it, and all three took off running on Saint James Place towards Greene Avenue, cops said.

**Chopper down**

Someone swiped a man’s motorcycle after he parked it on Flatbush Avenue Extension on Nov. 12 and went to work, cops said.

The 39-year-old owner said he left his wheels between Willoughby and Fleet streets at 7 am, and that when he returned three hours later it was gone.

Cops found a lock used to secure the bike broken on the ground nearby, according to a police report.

— Matthew Perlman

**76TH PRECINCT**  
*Carroll Gardens–Cobble Hill–Red Hook*

**Fluid assets**

A burglar cleaned out a car wash on Hamilton Avenue sometime overnight on Dec. 1, according to a police report.

An employee of the business between Centre and Mill streets told cops he had locked up for the night at 6 pm. When he returned the next day at 8 am, \$1,800 in cash was missing from the register, officers stated.

The prowler may have entered the business through a hole in the wall that allowed access from an abandoned building next door, employees said.

**Today’s specials**

An intruder busted into a Columbia Street restaurant through the window on Dec. 1, NYPD officials said.

A witness was passing the eatery between Kane and De-graw streets at 6:15 am when he heard shattering glass and hammering sounds, and noticed a brick lying near the restaurant, according to cops. He then saw a heavyset man

climb out of a broken window of the restaurant, jog away, and make his getaway on a nearby B61 bus headed toward Downtown, a report states.

The owners of the restaurant are working to figure out if the trespasser swiped anything, officers related.

— Max Jaeger

**Kid and – hey!**

A brute stole a child’s cell-phone on Baltic Street on Nov. 24, cops said.

The 11-year-old boy was between Hoyt and Smith streets at 3:10 pm when the bully snatched his \$50 LG cellphone out of his hand, according to the authorities.

The galoot then rifled through the victim’s pockets and demanded money, police reported.

When he turned up no loot, he took off with the device down Baltic Street toward Hoyt Street, per police.

— Noah Hurowitz

**68TH PRECINCT**  
*Bay Ridge–Dyker Heights*

**Brutal**

A wicked woman blindsided a random lady, punching her in the face and stealing her purse on 73rd Street in Dyker Heights on Nov. 25, police reported.

The 58-year-old victim said she was near 12th Avenue between 7:30 pm and 7:45 pm when the fiend came up behind her, socked her in the face, and fled with the handbag.

**Tool crime**

Someone stole \$6,960 in power tools from an Ovington Avenue home sometime between Nov. 26 and Nov. 27, cops said.

The resident, who lives between 12th and 13th avenues in Bensonhurst, said the sneak broke into the basement between 5:30 pm on Nov. 26 and 6 pm the next day and took the goods.

**Frisky**

A cat burglar took a camera and two gold chains from an Ovington Avenue residence on Nov. 28, officers stated.

The resident, who lives between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Bay Ridge, said someone entered the house through a fire-escape window and bagged the loot while he was out, sometime between 9 am and 11:30 pm, NYPD officials said.

**Trickster**

A grifter conned an elderly woman out of \$1,500 on Nov. 22, according to the authorities.

The fraudster called the 71-year-old at her 74th Street home in Bay Ridge at 10 pm and said she owed money to the Internal Revenue Service, police said.

The con artist told the granny to buy a prepaid debit card and read the card number and personal identification number to him over the phone, and the victim complied, ac-

ording to a report.

**Speed: Rated R**

A scoundrel snatched a phone from a straphanger aboard a Bay Ridge-bound R train on Nov. 27, per cops.

The train pulled into the Bay Ridge Avenue station, and when the doors opened, the thief ripped the phone from the 51-year-old man’s hands and fled the station, police said.

— Max Jaeger

**94TH PRECINCT**  
*Greenpoint–Northside*

**Serial outcast**

Cops cuffed a young man who they say went on a rampage on Bedford Avenue on Nov. 26 that ended with him assaulting an officer.

The man’s first stop was a pizzeria between N. Seventh and N. Eighth streets, according to a report. The clerk said that the suspect walked into the business at 1:55 am and started complaining about the seating and service. He then picked up a chair and bashed the clerk in the head, according to the authorities.

“If you call the police, I will burn the place down,” the accused allegedly threatened.

Police say a few minutes later the same fellow waltzed into a restaurant on N. Eighth Street between Bedford Avenue and Berry Street and tried to rob the place.

“I am a f----- sniper and this is going to be the worst day of your life,” he supposedly told the staff. “I want all the money inside.”

One of the waiters called the cops, and officers took the man to the 94th Precinct on Meserole Avenue. There he threw a cop to the floor, injuring the officer’s back and neck, police claim. The officer was taken to Bellevue Hospital Center and the suspect was hit with several charges, including assault and attempted robbery.

**Bad son**

A man was arrested for beating his elderly mother with a pan on Huron Street on Nov. 27, police reported.

The 73-year-old victim said that she confronted her son about his drinking problem in their home between McGuinness Bouvelard and Provost Street at 2 pm.

“You drinking again?” she said she asked her son.

The suspect responded that he was going to kill her, picked up a pan, and smashed her in the face, head, and body, according to cops.

The accused also picked up a pair of scissors and held them to his mom’s neck, officers stated. Police charged the man with assault.

**Mean teens**

A crew of punks beat a man and stole his phone on Manhattan Avenue on Nov. 21, police related.

The victim said that he was at the corner of Meeker Avenue at 2:40 pm when the terrible teens surrounded him and set to punching him in the head.

At some point, the phone fell out of his pocket and one of the delinquents grabbed it and ran, the authorities said. The victim’s girlfriend called his phone a few minutes later and a male voice answered, a report states.

“Yeah, b----, I have your phone,” the fiend supposedly said, then hung up.

**90TH PRECINCT**  
*Southside–Bushwick*

**FaceTime**

A goon shot a man in the face during an argument in an apartment building on Hewes Street on Nov. 27, cops said.

The 32-year-old victim said that he was in the lobby of the building between S. Third and S. Fourth streets at 4:58 pm when he got into an argument with two guys in the hallway and one of them pulled a gun and let off a round.

The incident was caught on camera and showed the gunman shoot, then grab the shell casing and scam, police recounted. The victim was taken to Bellevue Hospital Center in critical condition, according to the authorities.

**No love**

Police arrested a 43-year-old man who they say beat his brother with a tennis racquet during a family dispute on Seigel Street on Nov. 28.

The victim said he was at the apartment he shares with his father and brother between Graham and Manhattan avenues at 2:50 am when an argument turned violent.

His brother beat him on the arm with the racquet and punched him in the face several times, leaving him banged up and sporting a shiner, according to a report. Police charged the suspect with assault.

**Fraidy cat**

A would-be cat burglar scurried out of the window of a Scholes Street home on Nov. 27 when he realized the tenant was inside, officers said.

The 27-year-old resident of the pad between Humboldt Street and Bushwick Avenue said he was in bed at 2 am when the prowler popped his head through the window.

The intruder and the man stared at each other for a moment, then the trespasser traipsed off, cops stated.

As far as the victim could tell, no items were stolen, he said.

**Easy money**

A thief grabbed an envelope containing \$600 out of a woman’s hand was on Graham Avenue on Nov. 28, police said.

The 24-year-old woman said she was between Debevoise Street and Flushing Avenue at 1 pm with the envelope in her hand when the crook jumped in front of her, snatched the cash, and booked it towards Tompkins Avenue.

— Danielle Furfaro

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# Ring-in almost rained out

## Scrooge-ish rain strikes Downtown tree-lighting fest

By Matthew Perlman  
The Brooklyn Paper

A steady flow of freezing rain soaked the stage at the 25th annual MetroTech Center tree lighting on Monday night, so much so that one ballerina took a dive and the dance performance had to be cut short.

Still, a respectable crowd of 50 gathered under an overhang to watch the festivities that one attendee said turns the page on Thanksgiving.

“The weather’s not going to stop us,” said Che Larhue, who came out to the lighting from Canarsie with her 4-year-old daughter. “This kicks off the season for us.”

Forest City Ratner, which owns MetroTech, organized the seasonal affair and its chairman Bruce Ratner officiated.

Brooklyn Technical High School’s choir kicked off the ceremony with a set of Christmas carols, belting out more yuletide ditties than one might expect considering the vocalists were getting soaked.

Deep puddles had pooled on the stage by the time the singers left to make way for dancers from the American Ballet Theatre Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School.

But as the white-clad ballerinas filed on, accompanied by a lone nutcracker, one of the tiny dancers slipped on the soaking plywood and landed directly in a puddle. She popped up and the dancers took their positions, wait-



(Top) Center, Canarsie mom Che Larhue and, left, her daughter Zyla Williams celebrate the holiday season with an elf from the Big Apple Circus at MetroTech Center on Monday. (Above) Ballet students pose after one slipped and fell heading out onto the rain-soaked stage. (Right) The office park’s Christmas tree.



ing for their musical queue. But it never came.

Instead, an instructor herded the dancers for a group photo at the front of the stage, then ushered them to safety.

That crisis averted, Ratner returned to the stage and introduced Borough President Adams. But the usually loquacious Beep only uttered a few lines before concluding “Brooklyn is where it’s at,” and throwing the show to a pair of soggy Brooklyn Nets players.

The towering hardwood heroes, Jorge Gutierrez and Jerome Jordan, looked even more uncomfortable than Adams in the rain, and it was starting to really pick up.

Finally, after a few brief remarks from the athletes, Forest City president Mary-Anne Gilmartin introduced the robot booked to throw the light-switch.

Students at New York University Polytechnic School of Engineering built the robot, called Caesar, as a tool to help autistic kids. Until its introduction, Caesar sat dormant on the ground next to the stage, being sheltered by a graduate student with an umbrella.

For the big moment, Caesar’s handlers placed it on the stage in front of a plastic Santa that had a button protruding from its belly. Caesar waved, looked around with its unsettling camera eyes, then let its mechanical arm fly.



## Swish

Suri McDonald spins two basketballs with the help of Harlem Globetrotters Hammer Harrison and Slick Willie Shaw in a Clinton Hill elementary school on Thanksgiving Eve. The ballplayers showed up to answer a Youtube video challenge issued by a couple of Achievement First Endeavor Charter School kids, inviting the team to a game of Pig, an abbreviated version of Horse.

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# Library to bookworms: Google it

## Check out the new portable internet hotspots at the library

By **Matthew Perlman**  
*The Brooklyn Paper*

The latest title on Brooklyn library shelves has a lot more to it than a John Grisham novel. The Brooklyn Public Library is rolling out a new program this week that will let patrons check out portable wifi hotspots. A library staffer said the new tech tools have more in common with dead-tree publications than meets the eye.

“We are committed to supporting literacies of all kinds, including digital literacy,” said Jesse Montero, manager of information services for the library. “It’s all about access to information and about empowerment.”

The hotspots are part of a citywide initiative to distribute 10,000 over the next nine months, with funding from \$2 million in donations from Google, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, and other organizations. Brooklyn will get 3,000 of the units and the borough’s librarians have started to dole them out at branches serving areas with low rates of home internet access. Those branches include Brownsville, Bushwick, DeKalb, Macon, Marcy, Saratoga, Stone Avenue, and Washington Irving.

“These locations serve communities that have a lot of need for technology access,” Montero said.

He added that these branches already offer more technology services than locations in other communities and that they are equipped with enough staff to run the new program.

The hotspots check out for a whole year, at which point they stop working and the library begins charging \$1 per day in late fees. So far the program is only funded for a year, and the library isn’t saying under what circumstances it could continue.

“This is something new. It’s an innovative program and we’re going to see where it takes us,” Montero said. The first 250 digital adopt-

**Eye on technology and innovation in Brooklyn**

have already logged. New Yorkers made more than 200,000 heating complaints to the city last year and the app’s added functionality is meant to streamline the processing of those complaints.

...  
**New York University Polytechnic School of Engineering** is hosting a talk on cyber security on Dec. 10. The discussion will focus on cyber-attack mechanisms, including the Stuxnet virus and distributed denial of service attacks. It will be led by **Richard Danzig**, a chairman of **The Rand Corporation**, a policy think-tank, and former secretary of the Navy. Joining him will be **Stefan Savage**, a researcher at the **University of California San Diego**, **Andy Ozment**, an assistant secretary in the **Department of Homeland Security**, and **Ralph Langner**, founder of a cyber-security consulting firm and first to call out Stuxnet as a U.S. attack on Iran’s nuclear program.

Jesse Montero, manager of information services for the Brooklyn Public Library, holds a wifi hotspot that is set to soon be available for a yearlong library loan.

ers will be from the library’s adult-education programs, which include English classes for non-native speakers and citizen-preparation courses.

“These individuals are invested in the library system,” he said. “And this program could really help them.”

After the first group, devices will be offered to anyone without a broadband connection at home. New users will have to attend a two-hour orientation at their branch to learn how to use the devices, and will have to sign an agreement saying they will not use the device for anything illegal and certifying that they do not have their own broad-

band connection at home. But in the same way that the library does not send its fines to collections, the agreements will largely be governed by the honor system.

“A lot of what we do in the libraries relies on trust already,” Montero said.

The service is being provided by Sprint and costs around \$5 per month for each device. Every hotspot can support as many as nine connections.

The need for the initiative is definitely there, according to city data. A report issued last year by the comptroller’s office found that more than a quarter of New York house-

holds lack a broadband connection, a service Mayor De Blasio says is essential.

“Whether you’re a parent looking for a job, a child working on a school project, or a family looking for information on services, broadband access is no longer a luxury,” he said in a statement. “It’s a necessity.”

### Techno Files

The city updated its **311 app** last week to allow users to report heat and water problems to the **Department of Housing Preservation and Development** from their cell-phones. The upgrade also allows people to check on the status of a complaint they

## SPIKED Another Williamsburg venue to close very soon

By **Danielle Furfaro**  
*The Brooklyn Paper*

Spike Hill is headed to the great Williamsburg music-venue strip in the sky.

The bar, gallery, and performance space at Bedford Avenue and N. Seventh Street, the

onetime epicenter of Brooklyn indie rock, is closing in December, an employee confirmed on Nov. 25.

The reason, predictably, is real estate.

“The building is under contract,” said the worker who answered Spike Hill’s phone but

would only give his name as Ryan. “It is a shame.”

The band Pete Lantot and the Stray Dogs posted on Facebook that it would end its residency on Nov. 25 with a tribute to the bar in advance of its supposed Dec. 7 closing.

“Come help us send Spike

Hill off in style,” the band wrote.

Other venues have closed or announced their impending closure in recent months. Death By Audio held a final blowout show over the weekend headlined by the cilia-assaulting noise-rock band Lightning Bolt. And its neighbor Glasslands is set to close at the end of the year. Both were edged out to make way for Vice Media to build new offices.

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# Bow-ties for every body!

Fashion show celebrates the ‘unconventionally masculine’

**By Danielle Furfaro**  
*The Brooklyn Paper*

They are all dressed up with one place to go — Brooklyn Museum!

On Dec. 6, online fashion and lifestyle magazine DapperQ will stage a runway fashion show at the museum as part of the institution’s monthly First Saturday party. The publication and the show are aimed at empowering the “unconventionally masculine,” such as masculine-presenting women, transgender folk, and genderqueer people, explained one of the organizers.

“DapperQ is a queer fashion revolution, one of the most stylish forms of protest of our generation,” said DapperQ editor-in-chief Anita Dolce Vita.

The show, titled “(un)Heeled,” is intended to be a counterpoint to the museum’s current exhibit “Killer Heels: The Art of the High-Heeled Shoe.” Dolce Vita said the theme came to her when she took her partner to see the show, and her partner found it oppressive.

“It is a reminder of how society keeps women in their place,” said Dolce Vita. “We wanted to offer an alternative narrative.”

The fashion show — the third the staff at DapperQ have organized since the publication got off the ground six years ago — will feature clothes from several local designers and clothiers, including Bedford-Stuyvesant’s Jag & Co. and Bindle & Keep in Park Slope.

The event will also feature a “Dap-

per Academy,” where participants can learn skills such as tying ties, coordinating socks, and hat selection. But Dolce Vita said she is hoping those who join in will come away with more than just style tips.

“It is about building communities and building allies by using fashion as a springboard,” she said.

There is a strong need in the queer community for a publication like DapperQ, she said.

“We do have a fashion focus but our mission is to increase visibility and provide a platform for gender identity and gender expression,” she said. “Right now, there is not a lot that exists for the unconventionally masculine. Readers are stuck with traditional women glossies or GQ, which is heteronormative and misogynist.”

**FASHION**

**“(un)Heeled: A Fashion Show for the Unconventionally Masculine” at Brooklyn Museum** [200 Eastern Pkwy. between Washington and Flatbush avenues in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000, [www.brooklynmuseum.org](http://www.brooklynmuseum.org)]. Dec. 6 at 7 pm. Free.



Katya Wootman



Photo by Cate Dingley

**Sew what?:** Human-sized elf Claire Beaumont sews mittens out of old sweaters and scarves at Christmas Town.

## Doin’ it for thems-elves

Artists open Christmas tree lot in B’wick

**By Colin Mixson**  
*for The Brooklyn Paper*

You’ll have the pine of your life!

Two artists calling themselves the Union of Human-Sized Elves have opened a new tree-stand in Bushwick dubbed Christmas Town, where you can buy Vermont pines straight from Santa’s helpers and purchase hand-crafted decorating kits outside a life-sized gingerbread house. Just don’t taste the walls, warned one organizer.

“It will not be made out of real gingerbread,” said co-creator Patrick Costello. “It

has to be weather proof.”

Costello said he created Christmas Town with fellow performance artist Travis Sehorn to provide locals with a fun and immersive holiday shopping experience.

Employees will serve costumers while wearing full elf regalia, and the pop-up shop will play host to several holiday-themed events and activities during its run, the organizers said, including film screenings, game shows, ornament-crafting for kids, and an elf making mittens from old sweaters.

The duo decided to found Christmas Town after hearing tales of the less-than whim-

**SHOPS**

**Christmas Town** [6 Charles Pl., a cul-de-sac off Myrtle Avenue between Evergreen and Bushwick avenues in Bushwick, [www.facebook.com/christmastownbk](http://www.facebook.com/christmastownbk)]. Runs until Dec. 24. See website for up-to-date calendar of events and performances.

sical experiences offered by other Kings County Christmas tree vendors, which Costello described as “run by the mafia.”

“We said, ‘that’s really sad, but it doesn’t have to be

that way,’” he said. “It could be a really creative and interesting place to come to.”

In addition to selling Vermont-farmed trees, Costello and Sehorn’s yuletide emporium will offer complete tree-decorating kits, each of which feature up to 18 ornaments, a tree topper, and garlands, all designed and hand-made by 10 artists from Brooklyn and across the country.

The ornament kits will be part of a display called the Lovely Branches Gallery outside Christmas Town’s faux-gingerbread house, with prices ranging from \$40–\$120, Costello said.

## BALLET

### One last crack



Photo by Gene Schiavone

Aw, nuts!

The American Ballet Theatre is performing “The Nutcracker” for its fifth and final season at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, kicking off its last string of 13 performances on Dec. 12. The company is taking its Christmas show to California next year, so this is your last chance to catch a performance that is truly a dance-step above the others in town — at least according to the troupe’s chief executive officer.

“This is a completely new,” said American Ballet Theatre chief executive officer Rachel Moore, explaining that choreographer Alexei Ratmansky ditched the ballet’s traditional moves. “He re-choreographed every single step in the ballet.”

Over 100 dancers will perform the daring and sometimes dark dances that center around Clara and the Nutcracker Prince. But Moore said the show truly comes to life through the dizzying array of dancers who shimmy and sway onstage.

“What makes it different is you have all these girls who are snowflakes, they act like a character,” said Moore. “They are scary and formidable.”

But the acts aren’t too creepy — the show is very family-friendly, according to Moore, who said kids as young as 4 can attend as long as their parents think they won’t crack during the nearly two-hour show.

The company will start performing at California’s Segerstrom Center next December and Moore claimed the move is a logical expansion for the troupe — not a dis to the borough.

“We’re America’s national ballet company and we were given the opportunity to truly become bicoastal,” she said. “We’re really trying to establish ourselves on both coasts — it is not that we didn’t love Brooklyn.”

“The Nutcracker” at the Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100, [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org)]. Dec. 12-14 and 16-21. Tickets from \$20. — Vanessa Ogle

## BOOK FAIR

### Shelf life



Photo by Cate Dingley

What is better than receiving a new book for Christmas? Getting an old book!

The third annual Brooklyn Holiday Book Fair is coming to the Old Stone House in Park Slope on Dec. 6, giving gift-shoppers a chance to check out rare, vintage, and used books from 11 different Brooklyn dealers under one roof. The fair’s founder said the book culture here in Kings County is vibrant, but she wants to see more attention paid to publications from the past.

“In Brooklyn it feels like there’s so much momentum behind literary culture,” said Heather O’Donnell, who also owns Honey and Wax Booksellers. “But there was no tradition of this kind of rare book fair here.”

The draw for rare books lies in the story behind them as much as the stories they contain, said Stephanie Valdez, who owns Terrace Books, which will be selling at the fair.

“They’re not only chosen for their content, but for the specialness of the edition,” she said. “And they usually have a story.”

One of the books Valdez has up for sale is a first edition of “Stoner,” a 1965 novel by John Williams. After the book’s original publication, it nearly disappeared completely and was not printed again until the early 2000s.

O’Donnell will be hawking an original edition of Virginia Wolfe’s writing diary, which was owned by Wolfe’s sister Vanessa Bell.

It might take some digging to find what you are looking for, Valdez said, but the reward for your efforts can be priceless.

“Having a beautiful edition of your favorite book is a special experience,” she said.

Brooklyn Holiday Book Fair at the Old Stone House [336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (917) 974-2420, [www.theoldstonehouse.org](http://www.theoldstonehouse.org)]. Dec. 6 from 11 am-5 pm. Free. — Matthew Perlman



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Dec. 5



Citizen King

Well, this seems timely. Actor Roger Guenveur Smith brings his one-man show "Rodney King" to Bric through Dec. 7. The work, which premiered to great acclaim last year, explores the life and legacy of the late Californian construction worker whose assault by police, and the subsequent acquittal of several of the officers involved, sparked the 1992 Los Angeles riots.

7:30 pm at Bric [647 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene; (718) 683-5621, www.bricarts-media.org]. \$22.

SATURDAY  
Dec. 6

Sounds so Swede

Rocka pal (That is Swedish for "rock on" — at least according to Google Translate). The Swedish Energies Festival returns to the Issue Project Room Dec. 4–6, celebrating the Swedish national center for electronic music, Elektronmusikstudion. Tonight's performers include composer Ellen Arkbro, conceptual artist Leif Elggren, and Sunn O))) guitarist Stephen O'Malley.

6 pm at Issue Project Room [110 Livingston St. between Boerum Place and Court Street Downtown (718) 330-0313, www.issueproject-room.org]. Free.



SUNDAY  
Dec. 7



Cheaters prosper

Funny man John Hodgman is hosting a "Trivia Night for Cheaters" to raise money for kids creative writing organization 826NYC. As the name implies, cheating is allowed — but it will cost you in donations to the cause. Teams must raise \$1,000 to enter the contest, but you can also just watch.

7 pm at the Bell House [149 Seventh St. between Second and Third streets in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510, www.826nyc.org]. \$25, \$10 spectators.

MONDAY  
Dec. 8

No dummies

Portishead's classic album "Dummy" is 20 years old this year, which makes us feel old and depressed. The silver lining is that musicians Dani Mari and Will Hanza (also known as folk duo Owl and Wolf) are organizing a tribute show to celebrate the anniversary, where 11 bands will perform one track off the album, plus one original tune.

7 pm at Cameo Gallery [93 N. Sixth St. between Berry Street and Wythe Avenue, (718) 302-1180, www.cameony.com]. \$5.



WEDESDAY  
Dec. 10



Dram it!

Talk about a spirited discussion! Science and art lecture series ArtLab is visiting Kings County Distillery to examine the important scientific field of distilling. The event kicks off with a tour of the facility, followed by a talk on the chemistry, biology, and artistry of making whiskey.

6:30 pm at Kings County Distillery, Brooklyn Navy Yard (Enter Sand Street at Navy Street in Fort Greene, www.thisisartlab.org). \$8.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, DEC. 5

MUSIC, LTRAIN, FREE BEER, JUMP FOR THE SAILS, DJ IRV OH!: \$10 (\$8 in advance), \$5 with two cans of food for New York Food Bank. 6 pm. The Paper Box [17 Meadow St. between Bogart and Waterbury streets in Williamsburg, (718) 383-3815], www.paperboxnyc.com.

MUSIC, HENRY THREADGILL'S "ZOOID": Premiere of four new quintets by jazz composer Henry Threadgill. Each evening will present a different program featuring Zoid members plus a selection of soloists, plus a featured short beforehand. \$15–\$35. 8 pm. Roulette (509 Atlantic Ave. at Third Avenue in Boerum Hill), www.roulette.org.

ART, "ANN LIV YOUNG IN JAIL": The performance artist performs inside of a jail cell. \$15. 7–11 pm. Jack (505 Waverly Ave. between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue in Clinton Hill), www.jackny.org.

ART, MONO NO AWARE FESTIVAL: Eighth annual festival of sculpture, installation, performance art, music, and expanded cinema, featuring more than 20 artists. Free. 8 pm. LightSpace Studios [1115 Flushing Ave. at Thames Street in Bushwick, (212) 202-0372], www.lightspace.tv.

THEATER, "PUPPETS & POETS": The fourth annual festival features puppeteers, poets, musicians, actors, and other artists. \$18. 8 pm. Bushwick Starr (207 Starr St. between Irving and Wyckoff avenues in Bushwick), www.thebushwickstarr.org.

BROOKLYN RUGBY 2015 CALENDAR RELEASE PARTY: Including music from live DJs, drink specials, a charity date auction, raffle, photobooth, and more. \$20 (\$15 before Dec. 4). 7:30 pm. Littlefield [622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus, (718) 855-3388], www.littlefieldnyc.com.

COMING SOON TO  
BARCLAYS CENTER

FRI, DEC. 5

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. ATLANTA HAWKS: \$25–\$3,000. 7:30 pm.

SAT, DEC. 6

SPORTS, BROOKLYN BOXING: David Lemieux vs. Gabriel Rosado. \$15–\$150. 8 pm.

SUN, DEC. 7

SPORTS, BIG APPLE CLASSIC: College basketball tournament. \$26-50–\$46.50. 3 pm.

MON, DEC. 8

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. CLEVELAND CAVALIERS: \$85–\$4,000. 7:30 pm.

THURS, DEC. 11

MUSIC, SMOKEY ROBINSON: \$40.50–\$105.50. 8 pm.

620 Atlantic Ave. at Pacific Street in Prospect Heights (917) 618–6100, www.barclayscenter.com.



It's a Miracle: Smokey Robinson croons into Barclays Center on Dec. 11.

Associated Press / Joel Ryan

NORTHERN GRADE HER: Holiday market featuring good produced around the US. With with food, wine, and music. Free. 11 am–7 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.

SANTA AT MINI JAKE: Kids can have their photos taken with a female santa. \$30. 2–6 pm. Mini Jake [178 N. Ninth St. between Bedford and Driggs avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 782-2005], www.minijake.com.

THE BROOKLYN COOKIE TAKE-DOWN: Bakers from across the city compete to create the best cookies. Observers can consume bottomless cookies and eggnog. \$20. 2–4 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-

6510], www.thebellhouseny.com.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER "SHADOW" LEE: Featuring speakers such as filmmaker Cinque Lee and musician Arnold Lee, and photographs of mural tributes around the city. Free. 4 pm. Irondale Center [85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 488-9233], www.irondale.org.

ART, "YEAR END REVIEW" OPENING RECEPTION: Court Tree Collective presents a showcase of the past year's salon style, and a look into next year. Featuring over 15 artists. 7–10 pm. Court Tree Collective [371 Court St. between Carroll Street and First Place in Carroll Gardens, (718) 422-7806], www.courttree.com.

SUN, DEC. 7

MUSIC, THE REVEREND JOHN DELORE, JAMES ALLISTER SPRANG AS GAZR, DJ LE CHEV: With an interactive art exhibition by Matt Romein. \$25 (\$20 in advance). 8 pm. Littlefield [622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus, (718) 855-3388], www.littlefieldnyc.com.

AFRO FUSION — CREATE YOUR BEAT!: Market with artists and designers influenced by Africa, the Caribbean, and the Americas, followed by a fashion show showcasing their creations. Free. 1–6 pm. Kumble Theater at Long Island University [DeKalb and Flatbush avenues in Downtown, (718) 488-1624], www.brooklyn.liu.edu/kumbletheater.

FILM, "THE BIG PARADE": Silnt film with live piano accompaniment. Free. 1 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch [Flatbush Ave. at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-

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CEO  
Les Goodstein

PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER  
Jennifer Goodstein

EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR  
Vince DiMiceli (718) 260-4508

DEPUTY EDITOR  
Nathan Tempey (718) 260-4504

ARTS EDITOR  
Ruth Brown (718) 260-8309

STAFF REPORTERS  
Danielle Furfaro (718) 260-2511  
Noah Hurowitz (718) 260-4505  
Matthew Perlman (718) 260-8310

PUBLISHER EMERITUS  
Ed Weintrib

ADVERTISING STAFF

DISPLAY ADVERTISING SALES  
Jay Pelc (718) 260-2570  
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OFFICE MANAGER  
Lisa Malwitz (718) 260-2594

PRODUCTION STAFF

ART DIRECTOR  
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WEB DESIGNER  
Sylvan Migdal (718) 260-4509

PRODUCTION ARTIST  
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# Punk’s not dead!

Writer revives ’80s hardcore scene

By Noah Hurowitz  
The Brooklyn Paper

Get out your Doc Martens and your reading glasses. A hardcore historian will bring the heyday of New York’s hardcore punk scene back to life at Dumbo’s PowerHouse Arena on Dec. 11. Music writer Tony Rettman will take over the bookstore for the launch of his new oral history of the scene’s early days, “NYHC: New York Hardcore 1980–1990.” The event will also feature discussions with several legendary figures from the era, a DJ spinning classic hardcore tracks, and a market selling hardcore albums and merchandise.

Told in the words of the musicians and artists who made the scene what it was, Rettman said his book paints a picture more intimate and complete than any archivist could put together.

“Putting together a puzzle of how it went down is more important than putting my own two cents,” said the author.

Rettman, who grew up in central New Jersey, found his way into hardcore through his older brother, who started bringing him to shows in New York in the summer of 1984. He was only 12 at the time, but Rettman said it did not take long for him to take the do-it-yourself ethos of the scene to heart, and he created a fanzine in which he interviewed the members of now-legendary bands such as Gorilla Biscuits and Youth of Today.

New York’s hardcore scene has always had a tough, macho reputation, with bands such as Agnostic Front, Cro-Mags, and Madball putting forth an image of muscular



Photo by Cate Dingley

**New York, hardcore:** Music witer Tony Rettman, author of “NYHC: New York Hardcore 1980–1990.”

ties and enthusiastically welcoming young concert-goers.

“These guys seemed like they should be beating me up, but they were super encouraging,” he said.

Rettman’s knowledge of the hardcore punk scene in New York fades after 1990, when he moved to southern New Jersey to open a record store. He said the idea for the book came to him after a piece he did for the Village Voice, which left him with far more interview material than he could ever squeeze into the article.

Joining Rettman at the launch will be Paul Bearer of

### BOOKS

**“NYHC: New York Hardcore 1980–1990” launch at PowerHouse Arena** [37 Main Street between Water and Front streets in Dumbo, (718) 666–3049, powerhousearena.com]. Dec. 11 at 6 pm. Free.

Sheer Terror, Richie Birkenhead of Youth of Today, and artist Sean Taggart, who was responsible for a staggering volume of the do-it-yourself show fliers in the early days of the scene. Howie Abrams, the former label manager of short-lived hardcore imprint In-Effect Records, will disc-jockey songs from the era.



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# Gamble on!

## Musicians form bands in a day for Brooklyn Rock Lottery

By Danielle Furfaro  
The Brooklyn Paper

Gabba gabba hey you never know! A cavalcade of highly-regarded indie rock artists will participate in this year’s incarnation of Brooklyn Rock Lottery, a day-long event where musicians are put into bands with people they have never played with before and then have 12 hours to write songs and get them performance-ready for a show that evening at Baby’s All Right in Williamsburg. The 25 musicians in this year’s show will include Travis Morrison from the Dismemberment Plan, Bob D’Amico of Sebadoh and Fiery Furnaces, and Brian Chase of the Yeah Yeah Yeahs (pictured top). It is literally a once-in-a-lifetime show, said an organizer. “There is something pretty special knowing this

was created in one day and you’re never going to see it again,” said event creator Tierney Stout. The musicians will all meet up at 10 am on Dec. 6. The five drummers in the pool will be made captains and will be each be issued a band of four other players. Then the new bands will go off to nearby practice spaces to write and rehearse a set-list of between three and five songs. They are allowed to include one cover tune, but all of the rest must be originals. The groups will then return to the venue in the evening, where each band will play a set of around 15–25 minutes. “I never get the chance to improvise with complete strangers,” said Drew Citron of Brooklyn band Beverly. “It should be really fun.” This is the fifth year that Stout has organized the Brooklyn Rock Lottery, and the project has created

MUSIC

Brooklyn Rock Lottery at Baby’s All Right [146 Broadway at Bedford Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-5800, www.babysallright.com] Dec. 6 at 9 pm. \$15.

some serious magic during that time. One year, Greg Saunier of art-rock band Deefhoof was grouped with members of Japanese punk band Peelander Z, experimental indie rock duo Buke and Gase, and singer-songwriters Liam Finn and Nandi Plunkett. The formation ended up staying together, recording a 7-inch and playing a few more shows. “It is really cool when these musicians are forced to play together,” said Stout. “There is a good chance they never would have crossed paths if it was not for this.”

# Bouzouki Joe

## G’pointer combines psych rock with Greek instruments

By Robert Ham  
for The Brooklyn Paper

Dave Shuford is finally getting the attention he deserves. Already a known quantity in underground music circles thanks to his work with the free-form collective known as No Neck Blues Band and his country-folk project D. Charles Speer and the Helix, the Greenpoint multi-instrumentalist is attracting some mainstream interest via his new project Rhyton. The instrumental trio, which is playing Union Hall in Williamsburg on Dec. 10, combines Shuford’s primary musical interests — psychedelic rock and traditional sounds from Greece and the Middle East — into a heady and hypnotic blend. That might sound like enough to pique the interest of most music critics, but it wasn’t until the band re-

leased its third album “Kykeon” this year that it really captured the attention of the cool music cognoscenti, garnering write-ups from hip publications including Noisey and Paste Magazine. That may be because for the first time, the group is using structured songs rather than the improvisational focus that marked its previous releases. “It was just a process of trying to explore options and possibilities,” Shuford said of the band’s new song-writing approach. “It was a way to keep it interesting for ourselves and have some contrasting moods for our live shows.” Shuford also keeps things stimulating by utilizing the bouzouki and the saz, stringed instruments that date back to the mid-18th century and are ancestors of the guitar. Shuford said his interest in these tools has helped connect him to both his Greek ances-



Right-on: Rhyton plays Union Hall in Williamsburg on Dec. 10.

MORE MUSIC

Rhyton plays Union Pool [484 Union Ave. between Skillman Avenue and Conselyea Street in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1450, www.union-pool.com]. Dec. 10 at 9 pm. \$8.

try and his musical curiosity. “Once you learned the scales and harmonic structures that worked for those instruments, it opens up some new avenues of technique that I never would have thought to engage with,” he said.

## 9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8  
2100], www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

MON, DEC. 8

THEATER, “ALMOST, MAINE!”: The Brooklyn College Department of Theater presents short plays that explore love and loss in a town called Almost, Maine. \$12. 2 pm. New Workshop Theater at Brooklyn College [Campus Road between Hillel Place and Avenue H in Midwood, (718) 951-4500], www.depthome.brooklyn.cuny.edu/theater.

TUES, DEC. 9

FILM, “THE AFRICAN AMERICANS MANY RIVERS TO CROSS — THE BLACK ATLANTIC”: First of a three-part screening of the PBS series. Columbia University professor Christopher Brown will lead a discussion following the screening. Free. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pier-report St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111], www.brooklyn-history.org.



L.A. gear: Singer-songwriter Gabriel Kahane performs his Los Angeles-themed work “The Ambassador” at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Dec. 10.

COMEDY, “THE FANCY SHOW”: Free. 8 pm. Bar Reis [375 Fifth Ave. between Fifth and Sixth streets in Park Slope, (718) 974-2412].

WED, DEC. 10

ART, KNIT AND CROCHET GROUP: Learn how to crochet and knit with in-

structors or simply spend time with fellow makers. All experience levels and ages 10 and up welcome. Free. 1–3 pm. Brooklyn Pharmacy & Soda Fountain [513 Henry St. at Sackett Street in Carroll Gardens, (718) 522-6260], www.brooklynpharmacyandsoda-fountain.com.

MUSIC, “THE AMBASSA-

DOR”: Gabriel Kahane’s “The Ambassador” uses the city of Los Angeles as a lens to view perspectives of different lives through song and theater. \$20–\$35. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater [651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org. COMEDY, BLARIA LIVE!: hosted by comedians Phoebe Robinson and Jessica Williams, with Gary Gulman, Ilana Glazer, Jena Friedman, Travon Free, and more. \$12 (\$10 advance). 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallny.com.

THURS, DEC. 11

TALK, WHAT’S NU — THE STATE OF BROOKLYN’S JEWISH DELIS: Deli historian Ted Merwin leads a discussion with the owners of Junior’s, Jay and Lloyd’s Kosher Deli, and Myle End. \$10. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pier-report St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111], www.brooklyn-history.org.

FRI, DEC. 12

ART, “CHITRA GANESH — EYES OF TIME”: A site-specific installation inspired

by the Hindu goddess Kali by artist Chitra Ganesh. \$16 suggested. 11 am–6 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000], www.brooklynmuseum.org. MUSIC, THE XMAS POP SING-ALONG: With an ugly sweater contest and free milk and cookies. \$10. 9:30 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallny.com. SAT, DEC. 13 READING, BROOKLYN’S BEST BAKERS AND TREAT MAKERS: Taste treats from local bakeries including Ovenly, Baked, LiddaBit Sweets, One Girl Cookies, and Four & Twenty Blackbirds. Free. 3–5 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com. WINTER BALL: Featuring live swing music from Michael Arenella and His Dreamland Orchestra. \$150. 8 pm. Iroindale Center [85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 488-9233], www.iroindale.org.

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# OOZE SHIPS

## Hauling sewage from Newtown Creek

**By Tyler J. Kelley**  
*for The Brooklyn Paper*

These boats are made for human-waste trafficking. On Nov. 25 the city christened three new sludge boats, the vessels used to transport the refined sewage of wastewater treatment facilities, including the onion-domed plant on Newtown Creek in Greenpoint. The sludge that gives the watercraft their name is one of two byproducts of the sewage treatment process, the

other being water. The new boats, costing \$106 million altogether, are necessary because New York’s toilets are always flushing. “The sludge never stops,” said Gordon Arnold, captain of the Port Richmond, one of the new boats. To get a picture of what the sludge boats do in relation to sewage plants, imagine a drinking glass placed under a pitcher that is always pouring liquid, Arnold said.

“When that glass is full, you better have another glass there in a hurry,” he said. When a boat is late, the city has a “sludge emergency,” Arnold added, though he declined to elaborate. The Port Richmond and her fellow fleet members the Rockaway, and the Hunt’s Point, come custom-designed to navigate the shallow waters of Newtown Creek and the low clearance of the Pulaski Bridge. The city is decommis-



Photo by Tyler Kelley

The Port Richmond, one of three new sewage-transport boats designed to navigate the treacherous shoals of Newtown Creek.

sioning two older boats and keeping another, so the fleet will soon total four. Each of the new vessels takes six people to operate and can carry as many as a million gallons

of muck. Unlike their predecessors, the new boats can load sludge directly from the Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, nearly a mile upstream

at the end of Humboldt Street. The old boats stopped at the mouth of the fetid inlet to drain an 800,000-gallon storage tank on shore, connected by pipeline to the plant. Now the tank, at the foot of Dupont Street, has been dismantled to make way for the Greenpoint Landing mega-development and an expansion of Newtown Barge Park. The Department of Environmental Protection estimates that its boats transport 1.2 billion gallons of sludge each year. Of the city’s 14 wastewater treatment plants, eight are equipped to separate the liquid in the sludge from the solid, a process known as dewatering. The other six plants must ship their goop to those eight. Newtown

Creek’s plant is the biggest in the city, with sewage coming in from more than a million people in Williamsburg, Bushwick, Bedford-Stuyvesant, Greenpoint, and lower Manhattan. It does not dewater, so its sludge gets shipped to Wards Island. At Wards Island the goop goes into a centrifuge, where it is spun until the separation occurs. The solid, a black-dirt-like substance called “cake,” is handed off to a private contractor for disposal, in landfills and in abandoned mines in Pennsylvania. The nitrogen-rich liquid, or centrate, is eventually released as clean water. The city used to dump the sludge in the ocean, 12 miles offshore, according to Arnold, until Congress

banned the practice in 1988. For many years afterwards, the city turned the dried-up dung into fertilizer, but it recently decided the effort was too expensive. Today, getting rid of the cake costs the city \$73 to \$77 per ton. The new boats were partly covered by a federal stimulus grant, but the cost of wastewater treatment is passed on to consumers by way of their water bill. According to the department’s deputy commissioner for design and construction, the new boats went into service just in time. “We’re getting ready for the busiest day of the year,” Vincent Sapienza said. “Black Friday.”

# ROYALS...

*Continued from page 1*

affordable room at the nobly named Prince Hotel in Bay Ridge. Neighbors’ complaints of rampant prostitution and drug use may sour our esteemed guests on the idea, but then again, they may not. Remember, these high society types are often keen to see what the lower classes are up to. Unfortunately for these two, the city shuttered Downtown’s Princess Hotel, owned by the same guy and much closer to the Rust Bowl, not long ago after finding code violations and signs of the sex trade. The Prince Hotel [315 93rd St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Bay Ridge, (718) 748–8995, [www.princehotel-group.com](http://www.princehotel-group.com)].

**Prison Ship Martyrs Monument**

The Prison Ship Martyrs Monument in Fort Greene Park contains the remains of 11,500 American prisoners who died aboard the British Crown’s prison ships, moored in Wallabout Bay during the Revolutionary War. Not that we have hard feelings about the war crimes of more than two centuries ago, but what better way for the duke and duchess to show respect to the borough than to take a moment to acknowledge the blood that watered their family tree? Okay, maybe we’re



Associated Press / Susan Ragan

Princess Diana paid a visit to the Brooklyn Academy of Music back in 1989, taking in a performance by the Welsh National Opera.

still a little sore. **Williamsburg** The neighborhood’s in-progress transformation from humble, working-class townhouses to shiny, glass-and-metal towers mirrors Middleton’s own Cinderella story. Only this peasant-turned-princess isn’t being forced to look 10 stops further out on the L line for an apartment.

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# Ferguson here

## Protesters flood bridge, Flatbush Avenue

By Matthew Perlman and Noah Hurowitz  
*The Brooklyn Paper*

Demonstrators surged over the Manhattan Bridge on Nov. 25 to protest a grand jury’s decision not to charge white Ferguson, Missouri police officer Darren Wilson with any crimes for shooting black teen Michael Brown dead in August.

A thousand protesters poured over the roadway of the bridge from Manhattan around 8:45 pm that night. Police officers turned back an earlier attempt to cross the Williamsburg Bridge, and one clubbed a reporter for this paper in the stomach in the process. A Bronx mom, marching towards the head of the crowd on the Manhattan-bound Manhattan Bridge roadway with her 9- and 10-year-old daughter and son, said she wanted them to grow up in a world where Wilson’s actions could not go unpunished.

“I’m here because I want justice for my kids,” Taisha Herrera said.

Most motorists temporarily stranded on the span remained quiet behind the wheel, though two got into screaming matches with activists, while others got out of their cars and held their hands up in support of the chant “Hands up! Don’t shoot!” that has become a signature of Ferguson protests nationwide.

When they reached Flatbush Avenue Extension, the small group at the head of the spread-out procession waited on additional marchers to swell its ranks. It then continued on to the Barclays Center, taking up the width of the thoroughfare for blocks. Upon arriving outside the arena, participants sat in the roadway at Flatbush Avenue and Atlantic Avenue for four minutes, in symbolic commemoration of the four hours Brown’s body lay in the street after his death.

The march then continued



Photo by Arthur De Gera

(Right) Hundreds of demonstrators sat down for four minutes of silence at the intersection of Flatbush and Atlantic avenues on Nov. 25, protesting the grand jury decision not to indict the police officer who killed Ferguson, Missouri teen Michael Brown. (Above) Earlier that day Thomas Kimble of Crown Heights attended a rally in Cadman Plaza.

down Flatbush and turned onto Park Place into Prospect Heights, where rabble-rousers shouted “Join us!” to onlookers on their stoops, garnering scattered cheers in response.

Police walked alongside this portion of the march with their batons drawn, but did not respond to copious curses directed at them, and made no move to curtail the protest.

The long walk, five and a half miles from the starting point at Union Square in Manhattan, ended at Fulton Street and Nostrand Avenue at 10:45 pm. There some of the 500 remaining protesters delivered speeches on a megaphone.

One Bedford-Stuyvesant resident was thrilled to be reunited with the march after breaking off from it earlier in the evening.

“I was at a march in lower Manhattan, took the subway home, and when I got off the subway what did I see? Another f----- march!” Amir Badal said.

The Trayvon Martin Organizing Committee organized the march.

Police did not arrest any of the Brooklyn protest-

ers, according to a spokeswoman.

The demonstration followed road-blocking civil disobedience on the Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges early that morning, which also went off without arrests, according to reports.

Police Commissioner William Bratton explained the hands-off policing of the un-permitted protests to the Associated Press by saying, “as long as they remain nonviolent, and as long as they don’t engage in issues that cause fear or create vandalism, we will work with them to allow them to demonstrate.”

And between the surges of demonstrators, at noon, civil rights organizations staged a formal rally in front of the federal courthouse facing Cadman Plaza.

About 40 protesters turned out to that demonstration, calling on federal prosecutors to investigate the case and bring civil rights charges against Wilson.

“Police officers need to be held accountable,” said Thomas Kimble, a Crown Heights pastor. “If our youth get shot down, where is our future?”



Community News Group / Noah Hurowitz

The Rev. Al Sharpton’s National Action Network organized the daytime rally, which also included members of New York Communities for Change.

Wilson, in newly released grand jury testimony, maintained that the unarmed Brown trapped him in his patrol car and attacked him on Aug. 9, saying that the 6-foot-4 18-year-old “looked like a demon” and made him fear for his life.

Wilson, also 6-foot-4 but 50 pounds lighter, described a struggle over his gun that he said “felt like a 5-year-old holding onto Hulk Hogan.” Wilson fired 12 shots at Brown, killing him.

Surveillance video showed Brown stealing cigars from a convenience store and shoving a clerk shortly before the fatal encounter.

Prosecutor Robert McCulloch prefaced the decision not to charge Wilson on Monday evening by denouncing social media, journalists, and the activists who have made the shooting a persistent, national issue.

In an unusual step, McCulloch chose to present a litany of evidence to the grand jury rather than recommending an indictment, as prosecutors usually do.

The Ferguson decision comes on the heels of police killings closer to home,

including the choking death of Gowanus native Eric Garner on Staten Island, and the shooting of Red Hook resident Akai Gurley by a rookie cop in the stairwell of an East New York public housing development last week.

On Wednesday, just before press time, a grand jury declined to charge the officer who a coroner determined choked Garner to death when Garner objected to being “harassed” as officers stopped him on suspicion of selling loose cigarettes.

Police chief Bill Bratton described Gurley as a “complete innocent” and his death as an “unfortunate accident.”

Councilman Jumaane Williams (D–East Flatbush) appeared at the afternoon demonstration last week, voicing solidarity with the group’s frustration over the Brown decision,

but also calling for calm in the wake of riots in Ferguson the night prior.

“The rallying cry is always going to be justice and equity,” he said. “But we also need to have peaceful protests.”

A pair of Brooklyn Law School students from Cobble Hill joined the activists.

They were disappointed in the decision, but from a legal perspective.

“It’s not that he was found innocent,” said Cam Thomas. “The grand jury is saying we shouldn’t even ask the question.”

Thomas’s classmate, Ohanes Kalayjia, said the problem runs deeper than just the legal system.

“An unjust murder has been found legal,” he said. “You can look at the laws and procedures, but that would be ignoring the fact that institutional racism exists.”

## VEGANS...

*Continued from page 1*  
cinating all incoming dogs for canine flu.

An Animal Care and Control spokeswoman stressed that the organization cares for a whole lot more homeless animals than it kills.

“As New York City’s only open-admission shelter, we take in every animal that comes to us,” said Alexandra Silver of Animal Care and Control. “More than 30,000 each year.”

Empty Cages has a no-kill

policy, but the tough part is still figuring out which creatures to help, because there is not room in the group’s facilities and its members’ homes for them all.

“It’s really painful. Which ever you select, the ones you don’t are going to die,” Zafonte said.

“It’s one of the most heart-

wrenching decisions.”

The volunteers try to select the animals that will be easy to get adopted, but they do sometimes shelter animals that are missing eyes and limbs.

“It’s a numbers game,” said Tasic. “But sometimes you cannot say no.”

— with Nathan Tempey

# TWO WAYS TO LOVE

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# Home is my White Castle

Williamsburg fast-food joint set to become housing

By Danielle Furfaro  
The Brooklyn Paper

We can only hope the leases include a side of chicken rings.

A month after the White Castle on Metropolitan Avenue in Williamsburg closed abruptly, a developer has revealed it plans to build an eight-story apartment building in its place. The news was not welcomed by a neighbor, who said that the area has been taxed by new luxury housing enough already.

“More apartment buildings are the last thing we need in this neighborhood,” said Carl Sargent, who lives a few blocks away.

The developer bought the land under the fast-food joint, known for its late hours, last year. At the time, the eatery’s operators said they didn’t



Adamamerica



Photo by Jason Spiekman

An 81-apartment complex (top) is coming to the former White Castle (bottom).

know when it would close, and it finally did without warning at the end of September.

The developer Adamamerica plans to build an 81-unit complex with retail space on the ground floor, taking up the area currently occupied by the fast-food fortress and its parking lot.

The new building is also set to include a gym and rooftop access. The developer plans to offer one fifth of the apartments for below-market rates.

The family-run White Castle chain, which has been a Brooklyn institution since the 1930s and served as the muse for many early Beastie Boys songs, opened the little white eatery at Humboldt Street in 1992. The company did not own the land.

# Tooth in advertising

New Heights store has refreshing look

By Matthew Perlman  
The Brooklyn Paper

This Brooklyn Heights pharmacy looks like the inside of a tube of mint-flavored, whitening toothpaste.

The owner of Careland Pharmacy has spent the past 10 months transforming a former video store on Clark Street, next door to Hotel Saint George. He is hoping that the eye-catching interior, combined with a mom-and-pop approach to customer service, will pull customers from the plentiful chain pharmacies in the neighborhood.

“At a private pharmacy we know your name,” Ayman Tawadros said. “We know you. You’re important to us.”

Tawadros owned a pharmacy on Seventh Avenue in Park Slope for a decade, then opened a new store on bucolic Staten Island a year-and-a-half ago. He is glad to be returning to Brooklyn, he said.



Photo by Siyona Schlichte

Careland Pharmacy owner Ayman Tawadros and architect Sergio Mannino stand at the counter of the soon-to-open drugstore on Clark Street.

“We’re happy to be back in the action. Staten Island is nice, but it’s kind of quiet,” he said.

The new storefront is located in a landmarked building between Henry Street and Monroe Place, in the space that for more than two decades housed Mr. Video III, which

closed late last year. The renovated shop features a long window that the designer, Sergio Mannino, chose to leave unobstructed, offering a wide-open look at the bright, white-and-green space inside.

“If you want to open yourself up to your customers, you have to be completely open,”

Mannino said, adding that most chain pharmacies cover up their windows.

Mannino also decided to preserve the long, wavy wall that once held display racks packed with the latest blockbusters. He said the meandering shelves lay out what the store has to offer.

“We didn’t want to block any of the walls with tall shelving,” Mannino said. “We wanted to maximize the visibility from the street.”

The floor of the new business is lime green and sports sketches of bandages that Mannino printed on vinyl.

The pharmacy will offer customers perks such as free flavoring of kids medicines and courtesy letters reminding that prescriptions need refilling, Tawadros said.

At the end of the day, Tawadros said, the little guys just care more.

“You can just do your job, or you can do your job and make someone happy at the same time,” he said. “There’s always something extra you can do.”

BUSINESS, BROOKLYN STYLE – ADVERTISEMENT

# Step your home up a notch with Kitchen & Bath Gallery

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Okay, we can do a lot with our smartphones, but can we control the temperature of the shower?

Yes, we can.

Kitchen and Bath Gallery of Brooklyn explains how. It’s the one-stop shop for everything you need to modernize the two busiest rooms of your household.

“Electronics is very big now,” says Tom Acquavella, director of Sales and Marketing for Solco Plumbing Supplies, parent company of Kitchen and Bath Gallery of Brooklyn. Whether you’re putting a bathroom in a new home or remodeling an old one, it’s now possible to set things up so that preferences are programmed. A touch of your cellphone offers this control, as does other advanced systems.

For example, say you prefer a hot shower, but someone else in the household likes the temperature to be cooler. These preferences can be automated so that by pressing button number one, the water temperature is just the way you like it. Then, when button number two is touched, the temperature is just the way your spouse likes it. There’s no more fussing with knobs, no more accidentally burning yourself. You step into the shower, and like Goldilocks, everything is “just right.”

The shop carries a line of Delta hand showers that contain digital temperature displays, too.

“It’s great for washing the kids,” says Acquavella. “No worries about being too hot or too cold.”

Browsing the 4,000-



There are faucets with every type of handle and spout you can imagine, and others you might have never envisioned.

Photos by Elizabeth Graham

square foot showroom opens a world of possibilities. Imagine updating your medicine cabinet to one with a built-in television, something you may have seen at hotels. It’s now possible to install them in your home. Likewise, televisions and stereos can be built into whirlpool tubs.

There are faucets with every type of handle and spout you can imagine, and others you might have never envisioned. Some of these have electronic technology displays. Others are works of art — ceramic glass, customized patterns, hand-blown glass. Sinks designed like bowls have become very popular. Installing one of these in your home can heighten its beauty.

Vanities may be created with custom glass inlays. Sides can be ordered in different styles and designs. There are a variety of finishes. No more are bathroom vanities restricted to one color or one style.

Join the efforts to conserve water by purchasing

a low-flush toilet that uses significantly less water. It will still get the job done.

“We can spend hours working on a project with you,” says Acquavella. The company will outline everything you need, including handling plumbing needs. After all, the parent company, Solco Plumbing Supplies, has been in business since 1960.

“Solco proudly distributes domestically manufactured products whenever possible. Our faith in the quality of American manufacturing has been our mantra,” he says. “Today, 90 percent of our inventory is produced in America. We challenge any other plumbing products’ distributor in the United States to equal that percentage.”

Kohler is one of the most recognized brands in the business, and Kitchen and Bath Gallery of Brooklyn is the only Kohler premier showroom in the borough, says Acquavella. It had to meet stringent requirements to earn that privileged status.

“It’s the result of meeting the high quality and product presentation standards set by the Kohler Company,” he says.

It took nearly a year to complete the showroom, and the design encompasses the feel of the neighborhood, with its open-air, lofty decor.

“It creates a shopping atmosphere that is very comfortable,” he says. The sales staff has about 40 years of combined service in the industry. “They really know what they are doing,” says Acquavella.

The choices may be limitless, but if your budget is not, know that Kitchen and Bath Gallery of Brooklyn can accommodate all price ranges and styles.

“We carry extremely high-quality basic and luxury products,” says Acquavella. “There’s something for every taste and budget.”

The company encourages people to come down to the showroom to see all that it offers. Materials are supplied to individuals, plumbers, contractors, designers, and architects.

You don’t have to know what you want before you get there, because you may find something you didn’t know existed.

“Come in with your dreams, and we’ll make them come true,” he says.

*Kitchen and Bath Gallery of Brooklyn* [299 Atlantic Ave. between Smith and Hoyt streets in Boerum Hill, (718) 259-8010, [www.kbgbrooklyn.com](http://www.kbgbrooklyn.com), [www.solco.com](http://www.solco.com)]. *Open Mondays through Fridays, 9 am–5 pm, and Saturdays, 10 am–3 pm.*

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# Who needs the Garden, anyway?

## Crummy weighs in on Manhattan manhandling of a Nets superfan

Since the Nets moved here a couple years ago, I’ve missed only a handful of games at Barclays Center, and only for the rarest of occasions — epic benders, my nephew’s bird mitzvah, divorce hearings, you get the idea.

As a regular in the rafters, I’ve come to notice other Nets diehards down below who have a passion and style all their own. One such fan is Jeffrey “Gamblero” Vanchiro.

Gamblero also rarely if ever misses a game at Barclays. From my vantage point, it’s easy to know if he’s in attendance — just look for the flash of neon that’s jumping around whenever a song comes on. He’s a flamboyant character who brings a certain energy to the arena, though I’m normally not close enough to really appreciate, or be perturbed by, his dance moves.

But regardless of your take



Manhattan’s Madison Square Garden is no country for enthusiastic men.

on Gamblero’s antics, you had to be shocked by the video that surfaced Tuesday night during the Knicks-Nets showdown: a one-legged man decked out in neon green being hauled out of the stands, and at one point dropped, by security at Madison Square Garden. It was Gamblero, all right.

Gamblero lost his left leg

below the knee in an unspecified accident a couple decades ago. He gets around on a prosthesis. The early word out of the Garden on Tuesday was that he had hit someone with the artificial appendage, a tidbit that blew up on the blogs but was disputed by some in attendance. After the game (quick summary: the Nets

still look terrible, but they can beat the Knicks), I found a statement released by management at the Manhattan arena. To wit:

“An unruly fan was ejected after MSG Security received multiple complaints from fans sitting in that area. The fan was warned multiple times before being removed. He will not be permitted back into Madison Square Garden.”

Whether or not Gamblero beamed somebody with his leg in service of his Nets fandom, I want to say this: I understand. Even my most loyal readers may be unaware that I, Crummy the Pigeon, have a prosthetic wing. See, my former brother-in-law and I got into a real dustup over a pizza crust one time — he had a box cutter, and I’d had a bit too much to drink. It’s all kind of a blur, but I know for sure that feathers flew. And now I’m single.

Years later, I was at a karaoke night Downtown, doing my go-to rendition of Montell Jordan’s “This Is How We Do



It.” I was killing it, and as I was wont to do, I ripped off my prosthetic wing to offer it to the crowd as a second “microphone.” In my state, however, the fake appendage slipped out of my grasp and hit a nearby hen with whom I’d once been friendly. My explanation for what the local press later termed “winged assault” wasn’t fully appreciated, charges were filed, and I ended up stuck doing a year of community service.

Regardless of what happens with the Gamblero situation, I want readers to understand that a detached prosthesis can make for a lot of misunderstandings. Let’s hope any fallout from this incident doesn’t keep Gamblero from continuing to energize Barclays crowds, even if he may not be able to rep the Nets across the West River anymore.



Mourners file past a memorial for Mohammad Uddin, 14, who died on Nov. 20 after a driver struck him in a hit-and-run at the intersection of Caton Avenue and E. Seventh Street in Kensington.

# Taken too soon

## Friends, family members remember hit-and-run victim with a somber vigil

By Noah Hurowitz  
The Brooklyn Paper

Mourners marched on Dec. 1 at a vigil to honor the high-school student who died recently in a hit-and-run crash in Kensington.

Carrying pictures of the late Mohammed Uddin, the group of more than 100 met

at E. Seventh Street and Caton Avenue, where on Nov. 20 the driver of a maroon Chevrolet Impala slammed into Uddin in the crosswalk and sped off, leaving him to die, according to police.

Uddin was 14. Witnesses on the scene took down the 78-year-old

female motorist’s license plate number, and officers found her damaged vehicle nearby that evening, then arrested her for leaving the scene of an accident, cops said.

The suspect remains locked up with bail set at \$50,000.

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# In football as in life

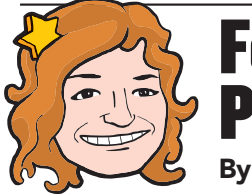
I never thought I’d use a sports metaphor to describe life, but sometimes your kids make you do things you thought you wouldn’t.

We were watching football on Thanksgiving, and the Giants came up.

“They’re terrible,” someone said, but my son Eli shook his head.

“No, he said, “They’re a good team, but for some reason they’re not winning.”

I smiled. He had seen them play live, sitting near an end zone that saw much of the action. He saw his team destroy the Texans, play after play. He saw them come back after a number of losses and



## Fearless Parenting

By Stephanie Thompson

win by a wide margin. He saw them at their best from just a short distance, with his own two eyes.

I bought him a hat and a big foam finger to support them, and he did, screaming loud from the stands. After the game, he was dead set on buying a jersey, and I found him one for cheap at Marshall’s. He wears it proudly, even now

that they’re losing.

They have it in them to win, they’re just not winning.

Wow.

I think maybe it is the clearest description of the problem with life. Isn’t that true of everyone, that we’re all walking around with this mountain of potential and yet sometimes we can’t figure out how to meet it? Isn’t it the case that

we all could do so much, that we could very nearly fly if we tried — if we really put our full best selves forward — but that finding that best self is hard and putting it forward even harder?

Why any of us are unable to meet our full “winningest” potential is the great question for the ages. I think about how to help my kids meet their potential and how to try to continue to try to meet mine so that they have a good model of behavior all the time.

It is not easy. It is, in fact, very hard to maintain belief — like Eli’s unwavering faith in the Giants — when signs point to something otherwise. It is very hard to keep on the road strong and steady in support of the idea that we are winners when we face devastating loss after devastat-

ing loss.

It is hard to tell the story of losing and imagine that winning is still a possibility. So it happens that sometimes, after a time, people stop trying.

I am thrilled that my son still believes in the Giants, that he sees in the players their great ability and doesn’t count them out solely because they can’t seem to make it happen. It shows a lack of judgmentalism, I think, and a willingness to stick by things for the long haul even if they seem to be going badly. He is good like this, loyal like his father, and I hope that this kind of faith he has can be applied in his life well beyond football.

I have to learn this lesson myself. I shouldn’t judge any individual action too harshly. Thank you, Eli, as always, for the important reminder.

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Legals

**Notice is hereby given** that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 11/28/2014, bearing Index Number NC-001196-14/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, grants (me/us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Christine 9Last) Daley. My present name is (First) Christine (Last) Daley AKA Christine D. Merlino AKA Mary Christine Daley. My present address is 96 Butler Street, Brooklyn, NY 11231- My place of birth is Mt. Kisco, N.Y. My date of birth is July 23, 1958.

**Notice is hereby given** that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 11/07/2014, bearing Index Number NC-001193-14/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, grants (me/us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Franciane (Last) Chery-Masse. My present name is (First) Marie France (Last) Laroche AKA Marie F. Laroche. My present address is 525 Bristol Street, Brooklyn, NY 11212-. My place of birth is Haiti. My date of birth is July 17, 1986.

**SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS** Index No. 1463/2012 STATE OF NEW YORK SUPREME COURT -COUNTY OF KINGS EVERBANK, Plaintiff, -vs.- MING FAI CHAN A/K/A JEFF CHAN; DENIS SHUK FONG LEUNG, if living and if he be dead, and all persons who wives, lienors, heirs, devisees, distributees, successors in interest of such of them as may be dead, and their husbands and wives, heirs, devisees, distributees, and successors in interest all of whom and whose names and places are unknown to Plaintiff; CITIBANK, N.A.; CITY OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT; NANCY T. SUNSHINE COMMISSIONER OF JURORS; BROOKLYN UNION GAS/KEYSPAN ENERGY DEL.; ATLANTIC CREDIT & FINANCE, INC.; CITY OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU; CITY OF NEW YORK TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU; CITY OF NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; "JOHN DOE" AND "JANE DOE" said names being fictitious, it being the intention of Plaintiff to designate any and all occupants of premises being foreclosed herein, Defendants. Mortgaged Premises: 1660 81ST STREET, BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11214 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT(S): YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service hereof. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. In the event that there is a deficiency in the sale proceeds, a deficiency judgment may be entered against you. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. That this action is being amended to include the possible heirs of Denis Shuk Fong Leung, as said individual cannot be located. That this action is also being amended to include New York State Department of Taxation and Finance and United States of America as necessary parties. KINGS County is designated as the place of trial. The basis of venue is the location of the mortgaged premises. Dated: July 30, 2014 Mark K. Broyles, Esq. FEIN SUCH & CRANE, LP Attorneys for Plaintiff Office and P.O. Address 28 East Main Street, Suite 1800 Rochester, New York 14614 Telephone No. (585) 232-7400 BLOCK: 6295 LOT: 81 NATURE AND OBJECT OF ACTION ...The object of the above action is to foreclose a mortgage held by the Plaintiff recorded in the County of KINGS, State of New York on January 31, 2007, in CRFN 20070000059112, said mortgage was assigned to Plaintiff by virtue of an Assignment of Mortgage dated November 2, 2009, and recorded on January 7, 2010, in CRFN 2010000005370. .... TO THE DEFENDANT, the plaintiff makes no personal claim against you in this action. To the above named defendants: The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Hon. Ellen M. Spodek a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of N.Y., dated August 21, 2014 and filed along with the supporting papers in the Kings County Clerk's Office. This is an action to foreclose a mortgage. The premises is described as follows: All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a point on the Southwesterly side of 81st Street, distant 287 feet northwesterly from the corner formed by the intersection of the southwesterly side of 81st Street with the northwesterly side of 17th Avenue; Running thence southwesterly parallel with 17th Avenue and part of the distance through a party wall, 100 feet; Thence northwesterly parallel with 81st Street, 17 feet; Thence northeasterly parallel with 17th Avenue, and part of the distance through a party wall, 100 feet to the southwesterly side of 81st Street; Thence southeasterly along the southwesterly side of 81st Street, 17 feet to the point or place of beginning. Premises known as 1660 81st Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11214.

**In the circuit court for montgomery county, tennessee at clarksville non resident notice** Case No. mc-cc-cv-ad sa-14-2085 TO: Samuel Santos Campos, Jr. You are hereby ordered to appear and defend a civil action filed against you entitled gregory kenneth rosenkrants vs. veronica rosenkrants vs. samuel santos campos, jr. Which had been filed Circuit Court, Montgomery County, Tennessee, and your defense must be made with thirty (30) days from the date of the last publication of this notice; which shall be published for six (6) consecutive weeks in The Brooklyn Paper. You are further directed to file your defense with the Clerk of the Court and send a copy to Petitioner's attorney, Adrienne Fry at 136 Franklin Street, Suite 200, Clarksville, Tennessee 37040. In case of your failure to defend this action by the above date, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Adoption and to Terminate the Parental Rights of Samuel Santos Campos, Jr., in and to the minor children, Samantha Xiomara Campos, born February 19, 2003 in Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and Cassandra Emileni Campos, born October 9, 2006 in Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Issued: By: Attorney for Petiti Adrienne Fry BPR 136 Franklin Street, Suite Clarksville, TN 37040 (931)648-9400

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